निर्यात की वृद्धि-दर

1226. **श्री रामगोपाल यादव:**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) हमारे देश से किए जा रहे निर्यात की वर्तमान गति क्या है तथा पिछले दो वर्षों में निर्यात की गति की तुलना में यह कितने प्रतिशत कम या अधिक है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि हमारे निर्यात की गति निरन्तर कम होती जा रही है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण है; और

(घ) हमारे देश का निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार के क्या कार्यक्रम हैं?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री राम कृष्ण हेगड़े): (क) और (ख) वाणिज्यिक जानकारी एवं सांख्यिकी महानिदेशालय से प्राप्त अनंतिम आंकड़ों के अनुसार 1997-98 के दौरान पिछले वर्ष की संगत अवधि की तुलना में डालर के रूप में 2.64% की वृद्धि दर दर्ज की गई है। यह वर्ष 1995-96 और 1996-97 की संगत अवधियों के दौरान डालर के रूप में प्राप्त की गई क्रमशः 20.8% तथा 4.01% (अनंतिम) की वृद्धि दरों की तुलना में कम है।

(ग) और (घ) निर्यात निष्पादन अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ इनसे प्रभावित होता है: अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार स्थितियां, घरेलू उद्योग की निर्यात प्रतिस्पर्धा, समर्थनकारी अवस्थापना, नीतिगत ढांचा आदि। वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान निर्यात इन कारणों से प्रभावित हुआ—विश्व व्यापार में सामान्य मंदी, विशेष रूप से जापान, जर्मनी, दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया के अनेक देशों में मंदी के कारण कुछेक क्षेत्रों में आपूर्ति संबंधी अड़चनों तथा प्रतिस्पर्द्धा में कमी तथा औद्योगिक विकास में मंदी।

सरकार द्वारा निर्यात संवर्धन उपाय निर्यात अनुरूप वातावरण प्रदान करके, निर्यात संवर्धन में राज्यों को शामिल करके तथा व्यापार तथा उद्योग के साथ परामर्श करके नीति तथा क्रियाविधियों में परिवर्तन के जरिए निरंतर किए जाते रहते हैं। सरकार निर्यात को उच्च प्राथमिकता दे रही है और निर्यात को अधिक बढ़ाने के लिए सभी आवश्यक उपाय कर रही है।

Export of Engineering Consumer Durables

1227. **SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the growth of export of engineering consumer durables has fallen drastically during the recent years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to take corrective measures in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Growth rate of export of Engineering Consumer Durables after attaining a high growth of 35.73% in 1995-96 recorded slower growth in the years 1996-97 and 1997-98. Details are given below.

Year		Exports (in Rs. Cr.)	Variation (over the previous year) %
1994-95		2253	1.36
1995-96		3058	35.73
1996-97		3289	7.55
1997-98 Prov.	(Apr-Dec'97)	2498	−4.71
1996-97 Prov.	(Apr-Dec'96)	2385	

Source: EEPC

(b) Major reasons for the slowdown in growth rate is the severe recession in the Bicycle market particularly in the European countries like France and Germany. Moreover France changed its policy of import of bicycles in SKD condition and now complete bicycles only are allowed to be imported into France leading to higher cost of Indian bicycles in French market. Steep price cuts offered by China in US and other markets has also led to Indian products being priced out. Imposition of Anti dumping duty on imports of free wheels

from India by Brazil, fall in demand in developed countries and intense competition from some of the South East Asian countries and South Korea after drastic devaluation of their currencies *vis-a-vis* US Dollar are the other important reasons for the decline.

(c) and (d) Promotion of exports has been the constant endeavour of the Government. Measures taken to boost export of engineering goods including consumer durables include various incentives under the Export-Import Policy like Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licence, Duty Drawback Scheme, DEPB Scheme, and assistance from Market Development Fund. In addition, the Government through Engineering Export Promotion Council has drawn up various promotional activities such as Buyer-Seller Meets, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, disseminating market intelligence and export opportunities to Indian exporters, creating homepage on a number of engineering items in its internet website for making them accessible to the foreign buyers through internet.

Economic Relations with China

1228. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are of the opinion that India has a lot to gain from close relations with China, especially on economic front; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure that India and China can work together at multi-lateral economic fora to ensure 'Globalisation does not lead to the complete erosion of national sovereignty'?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) It will be for mutual benefit if the trade relations between Indian & China improve.

(b) India and China have many similar concerns, being the two most populous and growing developing countries. Steps taken to safeguard national sovereignty, among others, include formation of a Joint Group on Economic Relations and Trade, Science & Technology, Working Groups on Coal and Steel, enhanced contacts and cooperation at the Govt. level between economic Ministers of the two countries.

As a member of the Working Group on China's Accession to the WTO, India has conveyed its support to China. India has welcomed China's interest in being part of the Bangkok Agreement and India has agreed to China's request for membership of the information group of developing countries. in GATT.

Increase in Coffee Plantation

1229. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the fresh initiative proposed to increase coffee planation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of coffee in the country; if so, the steps proposed to meet the same;

(c) whether coffee board will seek for this purpose new and suitable areas in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) The Coffee Board will be supporting a special package scheme to expand coffee cultivation in 3000 ha. of area in Andhra Pradesh during the Ninth Plan by providing a one time grant of Rs. 15,000 per ha. to the prospective tribal coffee growers. Further, for stepping up productivity in the tribal coffee sector, the Board will also be extending the same amount of one time grant for